Application No.

09/835,106

Docket No. 02-12, ACT 126/127

Art Unit Examiner 2839

Michael C. Zarroli

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: STEINBERG, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2839

Serial No.:

09/835,106

Examiner:

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Filed: April 13, 2002

Michael C. Zarroli

JAN 2 9 2004

For: OPTICAL WAVEGUIDE SWITCH

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATEMENT UNDER 1.113(b)

The undersigned representative would like to thank the Examiner for suggesting a telephone interview to advance the prosecution of this case, which was conducted on January 29, 2004.

During the interview the possible rejection of independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102 in view of U.S. Patent 6,320,997 was discussed. It was agreed that the claim 1 in its present form is patentable over U.S. Patent 6,320,997 for at least the reasons that U.S. Patent 6,320,997 does not disclose the recited feature that "said first waveguide holding member moves transversely relative to said second waveguide holding member", because "transversely" means along a selected linear direction, as defined in the application.

Application No. 09/835,106 Docket No. 02-12, ACT 126/127 **Art Unit**

2839

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It was further agreed that the application is now in condition for allowance, which Applicants note with appreciation.

Respectfully submitted,

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